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PATENT  
TECH CENTER 1600/2600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Delagrave Et Al.

Serial No.: 09/813,408

Filing Date: March 21, 2001

For: Methods For The Synthesis Of Polynucleotides And Combinatorial Libraries Of  
Polynucleotides

Confirmation No.: 2931

Group Art Unit: 1639

Examiner: M. Tran

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*1/23/03*

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV 160093550 US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: January 13, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.111

This is in response to the Official Action dated December 13, 2002, issued in connection with the above-identified application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please amend claim 23 to read as follows:

23. (Amended) A method of coupling a first oligonucleotide with a further oligonucleotide, wherein said first oligonucleotide is attached to solid support, comprising contacting said first oligonucleotide with ligase and cosubstrate to form an intermediate

*a*